

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

1. STATUS OF PAINTED BAT *KERIVOULA PICTA* (PALLAS 1767) IN MAHARASHTRA

Recently, a painted bat *Kerivoula picta* obtained at Dahanu was received at the Society. Dahanu, situated north of Maharashtra (19.15°-20.08° N, 72.32°-73.08° E) is almost on the border of Maharashtra and Gujarat and it is likely that this species is also found in Gujarat from where there is no record as yet.

The painted bat *Kerivoula picta* is widely but patchily distributed in India (Bates and Harrison, 1997). In Maharashtra, so far there are only two old published records, Mumbai (Blandford, 1889-91); Ghatmatha (Wroughton, 1916). Very little is known about their current status in Maharashtra. Bates and Harrison (1997) gave their conservation status as "widely distributed, but appear to be rare". Recently, a freshly collected specimen obtained at Dahanu (Maharashtra) was brought to the Society. It was skinned and added to the collection (Regn. No. 18366). Our (BNHS) collection has another specimen (Regn. No. 18365) obtained by Mr. Prashant Mahajan at the Conservation Education Centre, Goregaon (East), Mumbai. The bat, a male, was attracted to light and died in the building premises. Another specimen (Regn. No. 17670) was collected by Ms. Ferreira on May 4, 1967 at Gorai (Borivli), Mumbai.

Ramachandran and Jayson (1994) recorded a pair of painted bats, female carrying a young one, brought to the Kerala Forest Research Institute on August 26, 1993. The bats were

captured from a banana plantation at Kanara, Trichur dist., Kerala State.

The Dahanu specimen is also a male but is smaller in size and is possibly a subadult.

The external measurements (in mm) are as follows:

	Regn. No. 18366	Regn. No. 18365
HB	32.45	36.55
T	35.40	32.40
FA	22.85	23.60
E	13.10	14.70

HB: head and body length - from the tip of the snout to the base of the tail.

T: tail length - from the tip of the tail to its base adjacent to the body.

FA: forearm - from the extremity of the elbow to the extremity of the carpus.

E: ear from the lower border of the external auditory meatus to the tip of the pinna, not including any tuft of hair.

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